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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/003,381	12/06/2001	Tomihiko Azuma	040373-0313	5360
22428	7590	03/17/2006	EXAMINER	
FOLEY AND LARDNER LLP SUITE 500 3000 K STREET NW WASHINGTON, DC 20007			OUELLETTE, JONATHAN P	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			3629	

DATE MAILED: 03/17/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/003,381	AZUMA, TOMIHIKO	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Jonathan Ouellette	3629	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-13 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-13 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on ____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
 Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
 Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____. |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date ____. | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: ____. |

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

2. **Claims 1-13 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Cheng (US 6,067,548).**
3. As per **independent Claims 1 and 13**, Cheng discloses a business information system [method] comprising: an organization definition information storing unit for storing organization definition information for defining an organization (C5 L45-65, organizational model); a contents storing unit for storing contents consisting of either a procedure or information provided for users or both of them (C17-19, create organizational model); a customizing information storing unit for storing in set, as customizing information, a customizing condition set as information customizing an utilization environment by use of arbitrary organization definition information stored in said organization definition information storing unit, and information for indicating contents to be provided as utilization environment in a case where the customizing condition is established (C18-19, define and store resources and relationships); an organization definition information registering means for storing input organization

definition information in said organization definition information storing unit (C18-19, create corporate directory information); a customizing information registering means for storing in set, as customizing information, input customizing condition and information indicating contents to be provided in a case where the customizing condition is established, in said customizing information storing unit (C18-19, users enter information and define attributes); and a personal environment constructing means for acquiring the customizing information from said customizing information storing unit, for judging whether or not the customizing condition is established with regard to each user by utilizing the organization definition information stored in said organization definition information storing unit, and for acquiring the contents stored in set together with the customizing condition from said contents storing unit in a case where the customizing condition is established, thereby adding the acquired contents to a personal environment of the user (Fig.10, C18-19, employee information is save and displayed as specified by the use; Claims 1-10).

4. As per Claim 2, Cheng discloses wherein said organization definition information comprises at least one of information representing organization hierarchy, information representing partial organization, information representing distribution of personnel, and information relative to a job of each of individuals (C18).
5. As per Claim 3, Cheng discloses wherein said information relative to the job of each of the individuals comprises information representing at least one of an employee identification number, a name, an occupational position, a covering job, a function, a duty, a knowledge, an experience, and a location (C18).

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6. As per Claims 4-6, Cheng discloses wherein said organization definition information storing unit stores authentication information indicating that each of individuals is a true user of the business information system, and wherein at least one of said organization definition information registering means, said customizing information registering means and said personal environment constructing means executes a processing only when a user is a true user of the business information system, on a basis of the input authentication information of the user (C18, security information).
7. As per Claims 7-12, Cheng discloses wherein said customizing condition is capable of being defined by a complex condition, which is a combination of a plurality of conditions (Claim 1).

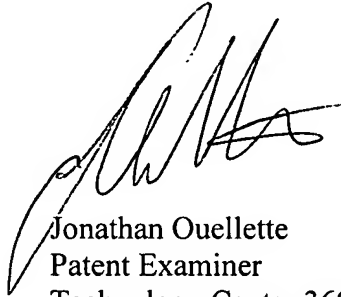
Conclusion

8. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.
9. Additional Literature has been referenced on the attached PTO-892 form, and the Examiner suggests the applicant review these documents before submitting any amendments.
10. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Jonathan Ouellette whose telephone number is (571) 272-6807. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Thursday, 8am - 5:00pm.

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11. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, John Weiss can be reached on (571) 272-6812. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned (571) 273-8300 for all official communications.
12. Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the Office of Initial Patent Examination whose telephone number is (703) 308-1202.

jo
March 14, 2006



Jonathan Ouellette
Patent Examiner
Technology Center 3600